

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the title with the following amended title:

**"SECURING TENSIONING ELEMENT, IN PARTICULAR SECURING ESPECIALLY LASHING STRAPS, OCTOPUS STRAP STRAPS AND RETAINING NET RECEIVING NETS"**

Please add the following new paragraph immediately after the title appearing on page 1.

This disclosure is based upon Swiss Application Nos. 50/03 and 2040/03, filed January 14, 2003 and December 1, 2003, and International Application No. PCT/CH2004/000008, filed January 13, 2004, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.